

THE FREE PRESS.

Ellis County's Best Local Paper.

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NO. 16

Notice to the Public.

On and after March first all "Cards of Thanks" will be charged for at our regular rates. This also applies to Lodge "Resolutions" and notices.

We are compelled to make this announcement, as there seems to be a mis-understanding as to the nature of this kind of notices. Most people seem to have an idea that a newspaper is a sort of public organ to be used and abused as they may see fit. This is the reason why so many country editors are an absolute failure in the way of acquiring worldly goods. People are always sure that the store-keeper will charge them for groceries or clothing which costs him good money, but they are prone to overlook the fact that it costs the editor considerable to make space in a newspaper.

Contracts Awarded.

The contracts for the special work on the new additions to the Normal School in this city were let by the board of Regents last Friday, as follows: Haffamier & Sons, water-pipe contract, about \$2700; American Seating Co., contract for supplying 600 opera chairs for new additions. The electrical wiring in the new additions was let to a Topeka firm.

Lucile Pearl Moore.

Lucile Pearl Moore the baby of Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Moore died last Wednesday, February 19, 1908. She was 1 year, 2 months and 17 days old. Heart failure was the cause of her death. The funeral services were held at the Lutheran church last Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Moore wish to thank their many friends for their sympathy in the loss of their little one.

The Slugs Got Mixed.

The local paper in a Missouri town recently had occasion to describe a wedding. On the same day an article was written concerning two imprudent tramps who had visited town. The new boy in the office managed to get the slugs mixed, with the following results:

"The bride entered at the right escorted by her brother who knocked at the door demanding something to eat. She was beautifully gowned in gray traveling costume. The groom wore the conventional suit for such affairs, a ragged brown corduroy suit, a soiled shirt and a battered hat and was accompanied by a fierce looking bull dog. Both were dirty and unkempt. They left town in a side-door sleeper of a local freight train followed by a shower of rice, old shoes and good wishes. If they should be caught here again they are likely to be roughly handled by indignant citizens."

M. H. Mulroy Honored.

Miles H. Mulroy of this city was chosen one of the two delegates from this district to represent the democratic party at the National Convention at Denver in July. The state democratic convention met at Hutchinson last week and by making a hard fight the Ellis County delegates were able to secure a delegate. Mr. Mulroy is one of the best citizens of the county and will be a creditable representative for his party and for Ellis County.

From Hutchinson the "Democratic brethren" wended their way to Topeka and attended the big Bryan banquet at which 5000 guests heard "the silver-tongued orator" discuss the political issues of the coming campaign.

Farmers' stationery at low prices at this office.

Boys' Corn Growing Contest.

The officers of the Ellis Co. Farmers' Institute are now ready to receive the names of boys who wish to take part in the boys' corn growing contest.

Class (a)—Open to boys from ten to fourteen years of age. Each boy to be given one quart of good seed corn by the county committee and to exhibit ten ears at the County Institute next Fall, winners to receive cash or merchandise prizes.

Class (b)—Open to boys from fourteen to twenty years of age. Each boy to plant ten ears of good seed corn (of his own raising or from elsewhere) to exhibit ten ears next Fall at the County Institute, the winner of this contest to be given a free trip to Manhattan Agricultural College, to attend the State Institute and State Corn Contest and judging, from Dec. 28th to Jan. 2nd.

There will also be prizes offered for girls in different classes of Domestic Science such as bread-baking, fruit-canning, etc.

We also wish to ask the farmers all over the county to save a sample of their best crops, grown this year, to be exhibited at the County Institute next Fall, there will be premiums offered for the best samples of alfalfa and other products of the farm.

We earnestly ask the rural school teachers to take this boys' corn contest up, and ask their scholars to try for this year's prize. All names for the boys' contest should be sent in to either John R. Chittenden, Hays, or Geo. E. Palmer, Hays, before March 28th so they will know how much seed corn will have to be bought. Seed will be distributed early in April so as to give the boys time to prepare their ground. Each boy will receive instructions from the Agricultural College at Manhattan and all questions they may wish to ask will be answered by the instructors of that school. Fathers should see that their boys enter this contest and let us show them that Ellis County can grow good corn.

JOHN R. CHITTENDEN, President,
Geo. E. PALMER, Secretary.

Court Decisions.

The Hoffman-Cox case was finally settled in the district court here last week, after its third trial. The jury awarded G. M. Cox a verdict, canceling the mortgage and awarding him \$129 damages on commissions for buying wheat. Hoffman Bros. operate a large flour mill at Enterprise and Mr. Cox bought considerable grain for them several years ago. The case has been appealed by both plaintiff and defendant to the Supreme Court of Kansas.

Another very interesting case which was settled in this term of court was the case of Elmer Henry of Ellis against the Ellis Telephone Co., suing them for commission on selling the plant. The plaintiff contended that his commission should be based on the whole cost of the plant, \$11,500, while the defendant held that commission had only to be paid on equity received, \$2500. The jury decided the commission to be paid was \$89.50.

Labor Unions: A Progressive Force.

At their recent annual meetings, the State Federation of Labor of Kansas and of Tennessee adopted resolutions declaring for woman suffrage. Other State Federations which have taken similar action are: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Washington, West Virginia.

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Obituary—P. W. Smith.

P. W. Smith passed away on Feb. 21st at his farm one mile east of town at 7:30 a. m. During the year's illness preceding his death he often expressed a wish to go and questioned why he still lingered.

Mr. Smith was descended from a long line of christian Puritan ancestry, of Massachusetts and Connecticut people. His father removed to Rochester, New York, where in 1822 his son was born. William, as he was called, was looked upon as the black sheep of the family, during his young manhood a natural appetite for liquor and tobacco early led him into excess and dissipation.

Though he had no liking for farming, his father, who was a wealthy merchant, bought him a farm in Wisconsin and insisted that he should go west and



become a farmer. As he was about to start for his new home he came under the conviction that it was about time for him to begin anew. Accordingly he threw away his whiskey bottle and later on put his tobacco into his vest pocket for a souvenir—a whetstone on which to sharpen his will, and neither were ever touched again. To one born with a liking for such things it meant much; for years he did not lose the appetite. The sight of a young man bound by its charms always drew on his sympathies, while he hated yet more what he considered the deadly enemy of mankind.

In the early days of Wisconsin while local option was yet in its infancy, he was identified with many bitter fights and all his energies were thrown into a warfare that was often closely won; his hatred of these things was always so marked a characteristic, as he looked upon one as the forerunner, and in many ways the stepping-stone to the other. If he knew a man occupying a position of trust or authority in the church, who indulged in either, he felt that such an example was inconsistent with his teaching and a contradiction of his theories.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith united with the Congregational church at Clinton, Wisconsin, and the family of seven children all came into the church while quite young. An active member in the church at Clinton, he removed in 1874 to Hays City where he cast his lot in the Presbyterian Church. For some years he took an active part in church and politics occupying some place of trust. A man of intelligence and broad information, nothing so keenly interested him as to see sin put down and righteousness triumph. He reached the ripe old age of 86 years.

While holding the office of vice-president of the Farmers' Alliance of Kansas he urged upon this association the importance of securing from the government a portion of the Fort Hays reservation for experimental work under the supervision of the State Agricultural College. Being fully satisfied of the beneficial results, if the cession of the land could be obtained, he persuaded Senator Plumb, in 1877, to introduce a bill in the United States Senate providing for the ceding of part of the reservation for an agricultural experimental station under the supervision of the state. The consummation of this ideal scheme was his ambition. The initiatory step of what has lately been accomplished after twenty-three years of unrelenting work was taken up by our respected citizen, P. W. Smith.

The funeral was held at the house Sunday afternoon and was largely attended and general in its character; representing the old settlers, neighbors and friends. The three pastors, Rev. Brown, Rev. Wiest and Rev. Mumford assisted in the exercises.

We, the sons and daughters of P. W. Smith, wish to express our gratitude to our friends and neighbors for their kind sympathy and help in the event of the last sickness and demise of our father. CLARENCE SMITH, P. H. SMITH, EMMA SMITH, MRS. J. C. ADAMS.

The Best Last.

The last, and what promises to be the best, number of the Normal Lecture Course, will be given Wednesday evening, March 4, when the Royal Male Quartet will appear. An ordinary male quartette is always a strong attraction, but this is extra-ordinary. Their repertoire includes the kind of songs you like to hear. Each singer is an artist.

Courier-Dispatch, Dublin, Georgia:—As good as all the music was, it is but just to say that the Royal Male Quartette carried off the honors. It is hard to say how many times the boys were recalled. Time and again they had to respond to encores. The people would not be satisfied to have one response, but insisted upon four or five after each regular number had been given. They sang every conceivable kind of song while here, their repertoire being seemingly inexhaustible. They are gentlemen in every sense of the word, and have voices which blend beautifully. The patrons of the Chautauqua have a warm spot in their hearts for the Royals and they will give them a great reception should they ever come this way again.

Judge Ruppenthal has written this for the Luray Herald, referring to two of our citizens. It is surely worthy of careful thought:

"A man was divorced last week at Hays on his wife's complaint and proof that he is habitually drunken. They were divorced over six years ago for the same cause, but after that the man reformed and never touched liquor for over a year and a half. For the sake of their large family of little children, the patient woman re-married him, but not long afterwards he began to drink again and the habit grew steadily worse until it was intolerable. The same fellow was in jail last fall for drunkenness and was paroled on condition that he stay sober, but in about a week he got drunk and was remanded to serve out his time. Another example that has been kept before the public gaze by papers is the former preacher C. S. Matthews who is reported to be in jail at Salina and who had been living at Ellsworth and earlier at Hays. Drink and drugs have brought down this talented man. Neither of the men mentioned in this paragraph seem able to resist their appetite. Unless something can be done for them by society, they seem doomed to sink to the very depths. Should not the state provide a hospital for inebriates or drug fiends where they could be cured, or kept for life if incurable? Some of the eastern states try to cure drunkenness, but Kansas has done nothing on this line for those of insatiable cravings. Such persons, if incarcerated, should be able to earn more than their "keep" for the state."

Notice To Tennis Players.

A meeting of the Hays Tennis Club is called for this Saturday evening at Harkness' Drug Store at 8:30. All members are requested to be present, as important business will be transacted.

Normal Notes.

The Normal basketball team was defeated by the St. John's Military school at Salina, Wednesday evening. The score was 45 to 19.

Miss Steed of Graham county enrolled this week and will enter school next Monday.

The subject of the Y. W. C. A. lesson Tuesday was "Guidance." Next Tuesday Mrs. Mumford will address the association.

The social given by the two societies last Friday evening was a success. Mr. Pierce received the first prize, (a cherry pie) for the best ex-temporaneous speech.

Alfred Havemann returned Monday from Russell Springs where he has been teaching school during the absence of the principal.

The Regents accompanied by the members of the faculty visited Yocemento Friday afternoon.

Prof. Kent is having a siege of the sore eyes this week.

Many former students who are now teaching write that they will return to Normal in the Spring when their schools close.

Notice to Deputy Assessors.

There will be a meeting of the Deputy Assessors of Ellis County, Saturday, February 29th, in the County Commissioners' room. Every Deputy Assessor is requested to be present as matters of importance will come before this meeting. J. M. SCHAEFER, County Assessor.

Special Tablet Sale

For the next thirty days, commencing Saturday, Feb. 29,—to make room for new stock, I will sell 5c Pencil and Ink Tablets at 4c each or 40c per dozen; 10c Tablets at 8c each or 80c per dozen.

J. H. SPRATT

DEALER IN

BOOKS, STATIONERY, SCHOOL SUPPLIES,
SPORTING GOODS, CIGARS AND TOBACCO.

Society Notes

The members of the Lutheran C. E. Society tendered a reception a reception to Miss Annette Foster, Wednesday evening, at the home of Rev. and Mrs. C. F. Wiest. The society presented a book to Miss Foster as a token of their appreciation of her services as president the past year.

Mrs. Leahy is visiting in Topeka this week, the guest of Mrs. Judge Nellis.

Mrs. Clifford Black, who has been visiting the past three weeks with her parents Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Beach, left last Saturday night for her home in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

The Saturday Afternoon Club of Hays will meet with Mrs. Eda L. Wiest Saturday Feb. 29th. Program will be rendered as follows:—

BEN HUR:—Lew Wallace

Collect
Roll Call
Reading of Minutes
Book Talk—Mrs. Mary T. Gartland
Miscellaneous Business

Office of County Superintendent.

Hays, Kansas, Feb. 22, 1908
There will be an examination of the common school or eighth grade graduates held on the 20th and 21st day of March.

The subjects for Friday March 20th are: Orthography, Reading, Penmanship, Geography and Kansas History. The subjects for Saturday, March 21st are: Arithmetic, Grammar, Constitution, United States History, Physiology and Algebra (elective).

The teachers will report the number of applicants to this office on or before March 1st. I will then appoint a teacher in each township to conduct the examination. No pupil shall be admitted to this examination who shall not have finished the eighth year or seventh grade work.

We will hold graduation exercises during the institute as an incentive to those in the lower grades and as a mark of definite achievement in the pupil's work. WM. GRABBE, Co. Supt.

Have your printing done at the FREE PRESS office.

Church Notes

Lutheran Church.

C. F. WIEST, Pastor.

10:00 a. m. Sunday School.
11:00 a. m. Public Worship. Subject: "The Pure in Heart."
3:00 p. m. Catechetical Class.
6:30 p. m. C. E. Prayer Meeting. Topic: "How God Leads Men" (Consecration Meeting)
7:30 p. m. Public Worship. Subject: "The Awkward Squad."
The Male Quartet will sing at the evening service.
Prayer Meeting Wednesday at 7:30 p. m.
You are cordially invited to all the services.

Methodist Church.

M. J. MUMFORD, Pastor.

Sunday School 10:00 a. m.
Preaching Service 11:00 a. m.
Junior League 3:00 p. m.
Epworth League 6:30 p. m.
Preaching Service 7:30 p. m.
Prayer Meeting (Wed.) 7:30 p. m.

Presbyterian Church.

W. B. BROWN, Pastor

10:00 a. m. Sunday School.
11:00 a. m. Morning Service.
6:30 p. m. C. E. Service.
7:30 p. m. Evening Service.
Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:30.
You are cordially invited to all these services.

C. M. Rand, the Kansas City Horse and Mule Buyer. His next dates are: Walker, March 18th, Hays, March 14th. 16-3t

Mr. Cole, a skilled workman who was employed in lining the inside of the large smoke stacks at the cement mill at Yocemento, suffered a fall of thirty-five feet Wednesday noon. He was being let down in a small box by some of the workman, when the rope broke letting him fall the entire distance. No bones were broken, as the man struck on another workman in falling, but the man will not be able to work for a couple weeks.

DR. M. JAY BROWN, the eye, ear, nose and throat surgeon of Salina, will give date of visit to Hays in next week's issue of this paper. 16-1t

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